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9 MAR 1964

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Acting Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Project OXCART/ [] (CIA Identification in the Press)

1. This memorandum contains a recommendation in paragraph 4.
2. In the event the scheduled OXCART briefing of additional members of Congress, and the increasing detail concerning the A-11 [] in the trade press, leads to more authoritative confirmation of the A-11 program origin being within the purview of this Agency, it is of the utmost importance that all branches of the Administration maintain a "no comment" posture. This is especially applicable to the Agency and the White House.
3. Official news releases, to date, have not advanced false information. Experience in the U-2 incident clearly demonstrates that to do otherwise creates an untenable position. Moreover, to respond to this adverse publicity by releases of additional information would commence the final deterioration of OXCART control.
4. In keeping with the above, it is my recommendation that the "no comment" position be affirmed with the Air Force, others of the Department of Defense, the State Department, USIA and the White House. Should you agree, we will immediately initiate the necessary steps.

[]
ALBERT D. WHEELON
Deputy Director
(Science and Technology)

The recommendation contained in paragraph 4. is approved.

/s/
Acting Director of Central Intelligence

This document contains information
referring to Project OXCART

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Signature Recommended:

(Signed) Carl T. Bedford

AD/OSA

O/DAD/OSA / mcm: 9 March 64

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